

William Tucker

(214) 368-4978

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Appl. No. 09/852,461
Reply to Office action of May 23, 2005
Attorney Docket No. P18296-2/34845-00502USPT

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in reply to the Final Office Action dated May 23, 2005. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and further examination of the patent application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

Upon entry of the foregoing Amendment, Claims 17-18, 20-23 and 25 are pending in the application. The amendments are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections.

Summary of the Examiner's Rejections

Claims 17, 20, 21 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Koodli (US 6,608,841).

Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koodli (US 6,608,841).

Claims 18 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koodli (US 6,608,841) in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

Claims 19, 24 and 26 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Summary of Amendment

Applicants have canceled without prejudice Claims 19, 24 and 26, and amended independent Claims 17, 22 and 25 to more particularly define the present invention.

Remarks regarding § 102(e) and 103(a) rejections

Applicants have amended independent Claims 17, 22 and 25 to respectively include the limitations recited in the objected to dependent Claims 19, 24 and 26. The Examiner indicated that the dependent Claims 19, 24 and 26 contained allowable subject matter. In view of the aforementioned amendments, Applicants respectfully

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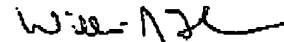
request removal of the §102(e) and 103(a) rejections and allowance of pending independent Claims 17, 22 and 25 and their associated dependent claims.

Conclusion

From the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the stated grounds of rejections have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of all outstanding rejections and allowance of pending Claims 17-18, 20-23 and 25.

It is believed that no fee is due. If this is incorrect, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which may be required for this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-1379.

Respectfully submitted,



William J. Tucker
Registration No. 41,356
(903) 489-2198

Ericsson Inc.
Legal-IPR
6300 Legacy Drive, M/S EVW2-C-2
Plano, TX 75024